AUTOMATIC PORTABLE PNEUMATIC COMPRESSION SYSTEM

PRIORITY INFORMATION

This application is a continuation application of co-pending US Patent Application Serial Number 09/413,968, filed October 7, 1999 (now US Patent 6,494,852), which is a continuation-in-part of co-pending US Patent Application Serial Number 09/038,157, filed March 11, 1998 (now US Patent 6,478,757), and is related to co-pending US Patent Application Serial Number 09/375,083 filed August 16, 1999 (now US Patent 6,447,467).

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to systems for applying compressive pressures against a patient's 10 limb, specifically to a miniaturized, automatic portable ambulant system.

Various conventional compression devices are known for applying compressive pressure to a patient's limb. These types of devices are used to assist in a large number of medical indications, mainly the prevention of deep vein thrombosis (DVT), vascular disorders, reduction of edemas and the healing of wounds. Prior art devices are typically divided into two main segments: 1) a hospital segment, in which they are used mainly for the prevention of DVT in patients with high risk for developing the same, and 2) a home segment, in which they are mainly used to treat severe lymphedema.

Although showing high clinical efficacy in treating the above clinical indication, prior art devices share the following disadvantages. First, they use the conventional main power supply (wall outlet), and thus impose total confinement on the patient during treatment. The pump unit is heavy (5-15 pounds), which makes it hard to maneuver and place in the vicinity